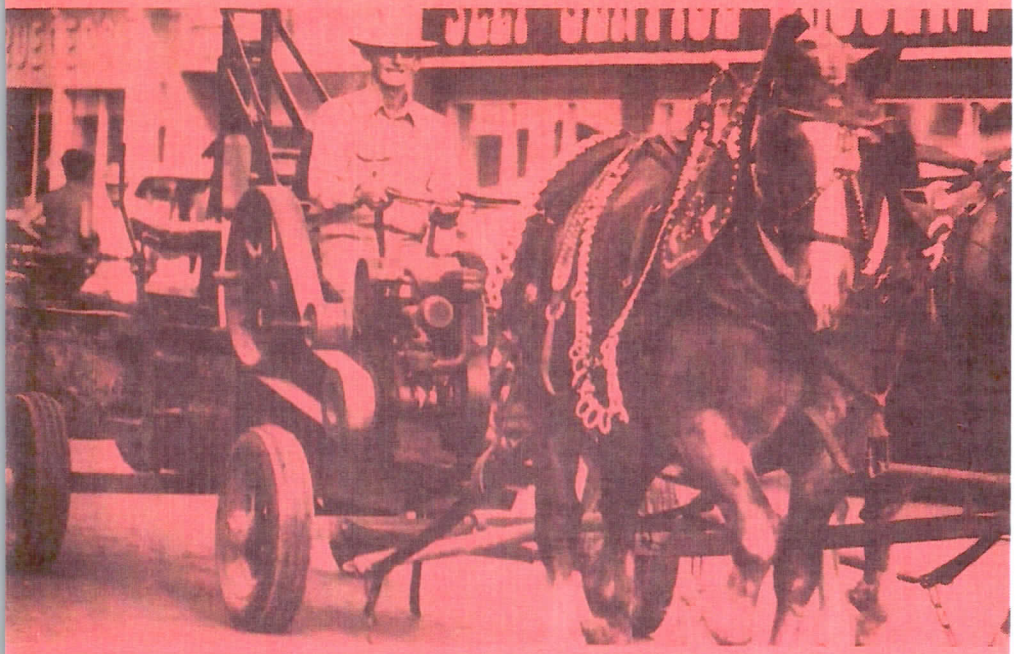
# IN THE BEGINNING



Published Quarterly By
Woodson County Historical Society
Yates Center, Kansas
**Vol. 12 - No. 48**

**IN THE BEGINNING**

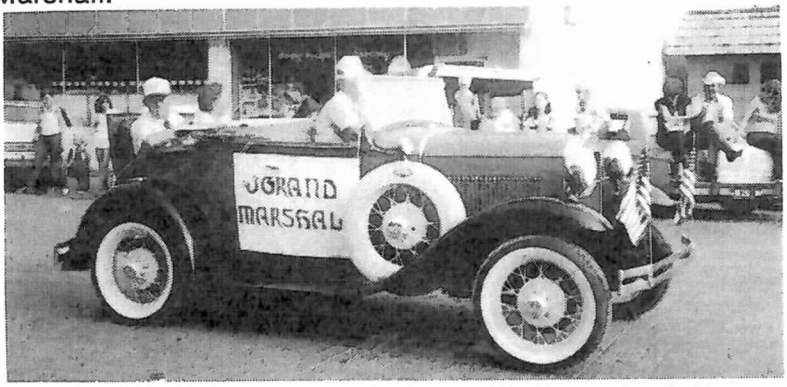
**Vol. 12 - No. 48** **October, 1979**

*Lester A. Harding,* ***Editor***

YATES CENTER NEWS, July 19, 1979 —

For more than 40 years, resident county historian Lester Harding has devoted his spare time to writing down and passing on the history of Woodson County. In recognition of his "outstanding dedication to the preservation of the history of Woodson County", as one member of the fair parade committee so aptly said, Harding was selected to reign over the annual parade as Grand Marshall. To Harding the honor was unexpected.

To his credit he has penned a column appropriately titled "Prairie Life" for 44 years with only a brief time during World War II. He has also written and published 47 volumes (issues) of "In The Beginning", which gives a detailed history of Woodson County and its founding fathers. Edith Harding will accompany her husband Monday evening as he serves as Grand Marshall.




**Lester and Edith riding in the rumble seat of Bernard Gaulding's 1931 Model A Ford.**

IN THE BEGINNING
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$3.00 per year 75 cents per copy

WOODSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Organized March, 1965

The July meeting of the Historical Society was held on the 17th instead of the 24th because of the Woodson County 4-H fair starting on the 23rd. The Senior Belles from the Senior Center presented the program, under the direction of Norma Kress, they put on a lively program.

There were 42 people present for the fine dinner at the Woodson House. About 14 of the Belles came after the meal.

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Our cover picture this time was taken during the 4-H Fair, Milton Sturdivan and his fine team of horses pulling one of the old stationary hay balers. This fine team and the old baler has been a familiar part of the 4-H parade for several years.

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IN MEMORIAN

King Aitkins 64 June 30, 1979

Mr. Aitkins was not a native of Woodson County but for the last several years, with his wife Maxine had made Yates Center their home. He had been a member of the Woodson Co. Historical Society after moving to Yates Center, and had attend the meetings until his health failed him.

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Tom Smith, Sr. 77 July 15, 1979

Mr. Smith was born in Woodson County and had spent his entire life here. Living on farms southeast of Yates Center. He had held a Life Membership in this Historical Society for several years.

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Attendance at the Woodson County Historical Museum seems to have fallen off considerable this year. It does not seem like so many people traveling through.

There are quite a lot of people in the county that have not been inside of this Museum. We firmly believe that they have been missing a lot. A few people of the county have spent many days to make this Museum one of the best in southeast Kansas and is something to be proud of. All work at the Museum by members of the Historical Society has been a volunteer.

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*Join and Support the*
*Woodson County Historical Society*

Life Membership $25.00 Regular Membership $2.00 year

THE DAVID HENRY FAMILIES —

David H. Henry was born in Tioga County, Penn., in 1827. His father was David H. Henry, Sr., and was a native of New Hampshire. His mother was a native of Vermont.

David H. Henry Jr. served two years in the U.S. Army during the Mexican War. He participated in five battles under Gen. Winfield Scott. Following this war he returned to his home in Pennsylvania where he farmed for some time.

On June 3, 1852, David H. Henry was married to Miss Harriet Fairchild of Canada, who was visiting in Penn. At the outbreak of the Civil War the family had moved to Illinois. Henry enlisted in Company I, twenty-third Illinois Infantry.

His command was sent to Lexington, Mo., here they met a group of the enemy, were defeated and captured. Henry was sent to Chicago for a prisoner exchange. He was again sent into battle with the eastern army. After being in several battles he was discharged in August, 1865 and sent home.

In 1869, David Henry decided to come west with his family. They seemed to come direct to Woodson County where Mr. Henry filed on a claim of 80 acres, four miles north of Neosho Falls. He purchased another 80 acres adjoining his homestead. Here he farmed and raised polled Angus and Galloway cattle. He was justice of the peace of Neosho Falls township for 16 years.

David H. Henry and wife Harriet were the parents of seven children namely Lewis R., Celia, Alice, David L., Lenore, Willamet, and Lucinda.

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As mentioned in the last issue, David L. Henry married Pearl Draper. Their six children were, Mary, Blanche, David, Pearl, Ben, and Helen.

Pearl married Lloyd Scheibmeir. She is the only one of her family to still live in the Piqua-Neosho Falls vicinity. The Scheibmeirs live on a farm two miles west of Piqua. Lloyd is also manager of the Farmer's Co-op Elevator at Piqua.

Lloyd and Pearl Scheibmeir are the parents of six children, two girls, Susan (Mrs. Warren Sicka), Judy (Mrs. Tom Splechter), for boys, Ronald, John, Jerry, and Kenneth.

WHEN PRESIDENT RUTHERFORD HAYES
CAME TO NEOSHO FALLS 100 years ago —

The Woodson County Fair originated at Neosho Falls in the early days of the town and county. When Col. Goss and associates layed out the town of Neosho Falls on the south and west side of the Neosho River they had plans for the land on the other side of the river where the mill was. They set aside a forty acre tract of land covered with fine heavy forest trees that they named Riverside Park. (on an early day map it was called Goss Park.

While Neosho Falls had lost the county seat in 1876, and the M.K.&T. Railway land office in 1878, the Woodson County Fair had grown into the Neosho Valley District Fair with the organization of four counties - Woodson, Allen, Anderson and Coffey. In the spring of 1879 it was learned that President Rutherford B. Hayes had planned to take a tour through the west in the coming fall. At a meeting of the Fair board it was suggested that an invitation be extended to the President and Mrs. Hayes to visit the Fair at Neosho Falls. Most of the Fair board considered the idea unthinkable and impossible. Major Snow was chairman of the four-county committee and it was through his efforts that the invitation was given.

Major Snow started the ball rolling by writing to James Harlan, a Republican senator from Iowa. Harlan was Secretary of the Interior under Abraham Lincoln and later a senior judge of the Court of Alabama claims. In due course of time the invitation was extended, and to everyone's amazement the following reply was received.

To Major Snow
President of the N.V.D.F. Association

My Dear Sirs:

I have the honor to accept the invitation to attend the Neosho Valley Fair on the 25th of September next. I will leave my home on the 22nd of September and go on the most direct route to Neosho Falls.

Sincerely,
R. B. Hayes

The date for the visit by the President had been set as September 25, 1879, the first day of a three-day fair. A tremendous task ahead for the fair board and committees during the summer months. The surrounding country was favored with good crops in the fields and gardens.

Henry Warrell, a Topeka artist, seemed to have charge of the decorating. A large archway was built over the park entrance. The arch was made up of sorghum stalks and heads of grain, of corn of all colors and other grain. Many different vegetables and flowers of various shapes and colors were used to make it an artistic triumph of skill with a place for the Godess of Liberty stand.

The agricultural exhibits were many in the large building referred to as the "Pumpkin Palace". Sheds were full of livestock.

Thursday, September 25 was a perfect day and crowds of people made into the Falls to get along the procession route by 10 o'clock. Horses, wagons, buggies were everywhere. The mile long route from the Katy depot to the park was lined with people.

A "carriage and pair" from Emporia with its colored coachman headed the official vehicles. The "Katy" came in on time with its whistles blowing loud to annouce its arrival. In the party were, President and Mrs. Rutherford B. Hayes, General William T. Sherman, Governor and Mrs. John St. John of Kansas. The President was given a 21-gun salute.

The procession was formed in the following order, under the direction of the grand marshal of the day, and marched to the fair grounds: Sixteenth U.S. Infantry Band; Capital Guards Band; Capital Guards; President and Mrs. Hayes and son Bertrand, Gov. and Mrs. St. John in carriage; Gen. Sherman and staff in carriage; Gov. St. Johns Staff, mounted; State officers in carriage; Reception committee, in carriages; Zouave Cadets, of Ottawa; Citizens, mounted and in carriages.

Mr. Charles Diver, who lived just south of Neosho Falls had a fine team and carriage and helped with a part of the presidential party in the procession.

The President had made the remark as the train approached Neosho Falls, "where is the town?" And seem disappointed at the small crowd at the depot. But when he passed through the arch and saw the vast multitude assembled in that lovely grove on the banks of the Neosho he inquired, "Where did all these people come from?" It has been estimated that there were 40,000 people present, but it was safe to say that there were at least 30,000 present.

As the procession crossed the river bridge and approached the archway into Riverside Park, the President doffed his hat to the Godess of Liberty, Miss Emma Snow. Uncle Eph Beardon, a white haired darky who had at one time been a slave,

crowded to the front with one of his boys. As the President approached, Uncle Eph shouted, "Three cheers for President Hayes". The President stopped the coach and shook hands with the proud old darky.

Hundreds of people were trying to obtain a footing on the grandstand, anxious to shake hands with the President. One stranger in particular was very persistent in his efforts. He finally noticed Senator Finney and called on him for assistance. The Senator refused, saying that if he was to give in to the stranger, a hundred more would make a similiar request. "But listen to my reason," said the stranger," and perhaps you will change your mind. Last week my wife gave birth to twins her first effort in that direction, and I have come 35 miles from home to see the President and ask him to name them." Senator Finney decided that he could not refuse the young man's request, elbowed through the crowd with the stranger. He introduced him to the President and told the story of the twins. Mr. Hayes appreciated the compliment and found out the twins were a boy and a girl. The President called out, "Name them Rutherford and Mary." His wish being granted the stranger left, possibly the happiest person on the fairgrounds.

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The press was very well represented. Between sixty and seventy papers of Kansas and several out of the state were represented. National Magazines like Harpers and Leslie were represented.

President Rutherford B. Hayes and wife Lucy Webb Hayes. In the above article where the man wanted names for his twins, President gave the name of Mary. In the book "First Ladies" by Sol Barzman, Mrs. Hayes name was given as Lucy.

A PART OF GEN. Wm. T. Sherman's Speech at Neosho Falls Sept. 25, 1879 —

(President Hayes concluded his remarks by introducing Gen. Sherman, alluding to him as the man who led our armies from Atlanta to the sea. There were loud cheers and upon restoration of order, Gen. Sherman said:)

Mr. President and Ladies and Gentlemen: I confess to a feeling of pride to be upon this stand at this day and hour. I left Washington some two weeks ago, at the request of the President, to attend him to this fair at Neosho Falls. I responded promptly, and we came here from a distance of nearly two thousand miles. The people everywhere have listened to us as courteously as you have listened to him today, but at no place, no matter what the crowd and no matter who the persons were, he has not spoken with more feeling and with more force than he has to you Kansans today. I am very glad indeed he spoke to you as a soldier, for he is the commander-in-chief of all the soldiers in America. I obey him with my life in my hands, and so it is with every soldier is sworn to obey his orders, so what he says is authority. He has authority where ever the flag flys.

I myself am very much pleased with the Governor's (St. John) address, for he has told us in a very few words plainly and truly, what Kansas now is, and what she was in 1865, at the close of the Civil War. I was very glad to hear the figures, because it reminded me of the contrast between the time when I first came here, in 1851, and now. Then I entered your State of Kansas up there at Westport, on an old sorrell horse. I had to swim Milk River, and got myself into a camp of the Kaw Indians, but my sorrell horse couldn't get in the stable, because it was built for ponies. We went out and picked up a hog trough and brought some corn and put into it to feed the horse.

As for myself I went into the house where they brought me some bacon and some miserable Corn-dodgers, and at night when I went to bed I was shown to the corn crib. I took my blankets out there and went to bed and the rats and I had it out for about half of the night. I finally surrendered to the rats and got out of doors.

Now boys that was Kansas in 1851. There was not a white man in your whole territory lawfully, unless he was an Indian agent or connected with some of the missions. There was no land occupied by white people then. The Governor gave you

the data, from 1865 to 1879, but you know yourselves. You have only to look around you to see the smiling faces and the land all tilled and cultivated. I don't believe I have seen a better crop of children and women on the road than I have seen here.

When I first came to this State there was no such place as this. When were invited to come to Neosho Falls we did not know where it was, and I had to look it up on the map. I have not found the falls yet. When you get to Niagra Falls you don't have to ask anybody where they are, because you can hear them. I want you to excuse me now and let me go see your fair. I hope you have some good horses. The speaking in mainly, of course to enable you to look at the people on the stand here whom you have come to see.

(This is only a part of General Sherman's speech to the people of Woodson, Allen and surrounding counties. His speech was interrupted several times by laughter and cheers.)

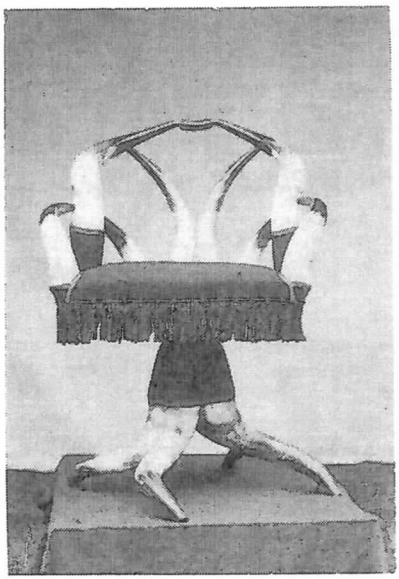
Picture of William T. Sherman about the time that he made his famous march, leading the Union Army from "Atlanta to the Sea", during the Civil War. General Sherman's speech to the people at the Neosho Valley Fair at Neosho Falls was about as well applauded as was the speech of President Hayes.

PRESIDENT RUTHERFORD HAYES GIFT CHAIR —

At the conclusion of General Sherman's remarks, Hon. Geo. A. Crawford in a short speech, presented the President on behalf of the Neosho Valley District Fair Association, with a chair, without its like or equal in the world, manufactured from the horns of Kansas Steers. (One intelligent reporter described it as "a Kansas buckhorn chair, made from the bones of Texas steers.)

In accepting the handsome gift, the President pleasantly said that he thought he would now have no difficulty in introducing a "horn" into the White House.

This handsome upholstered chair made from several sets of horns from longhorn steers, was presented to the Fair Association by Warren Crandall, an early settler and ranch man whose ranch headquarters were along Turkey Creek just over the county line in Coffey County. The Crandall Ranch also extended to some extent into Woodson Co.



This chair is now in the Rutherford B. Hayes Museum Freemont, Ohio, where it was placed in 1912, when this Presidential Museum was established. Shortly after the Woodson Co. Historical Museum was started, Walter A. Bowers wrote to the Director of the Rutherford Hayes Museum in regard to the horn chair and was informed that the chair was the property of the State of Ohio.

This picture was sent to the Woodson County Historical Society by Eva Busse, of Arma, Kansas. The men in the picture starting at the left: man with long coat and beard is George Shepard, next is Milton Phillips, Grover Lawton, Phil Ray, with Mr. Crawsby at head of the horses. Two of the men on wagon are Art Geary and George Holcomb. The other not identified. Mr. Crawsby ran the local picture show. Signs on the wagon shows the material is from the Chicago Talking Picture Show. Picture was taken by Woodson Co. Courthouse in 1911, by Thompson of Yates Center.

THE THOMAS WALL FAMILY —

In the last years of his life, Thomas Wall loved to sit in the shade on the rim of his stone quarry in the northeast part of Yates Center and explain his dreams to his two grandsons — how he and his workmen were turning the quarry into a pleasant recreation park which would be his memorial to the town where he came to around 1900 from Iowa to live.

His death in 1912 shattered his dream. Instead of the park he had envisioned for picnicing, swimming, boating, fishing, the old quarry has of late years been only a stagnant pool, swallowed by weeds and brush.

Thomas Wall was born in 1838 at Steubenville, Ohio. He was the first in America of the children of Nathaniel and Sarah (Craddock) Wall, who were farmers and cottage weavers from Gloucestershire, England, immigrated to America and followed the westward tide to near Elliot, Iowa.

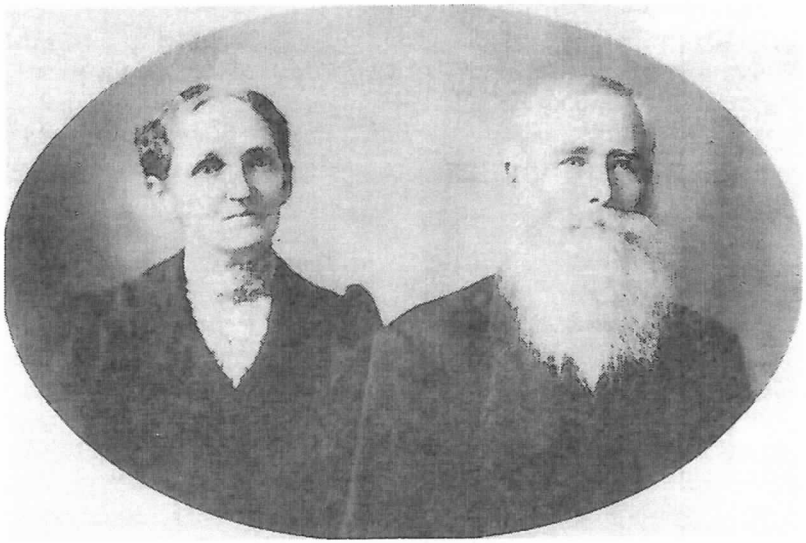
On December 4, 1865 he was married to Miss Eliza Mercer who died two years later after the birth of a daughter. On August 7, 1870, Thomas married Miss Mary Collins. Their first son Hermon, died in 1897. The other children were Alden A. of whom we will tell about later and a daughter Lyra. The elder Walls also adopted a daughter Birdie.

Thomas Wall bought land at the northwest corner of Yates Center. He laid out his real estate developments, built and sold houses, farmed and operated stone quarries with his son Alden.

Alden A. Wall was married to Madge Walker of Batavia, Iowa in 1897. It was soon after this that the Alden and Thomas Wall families came to Kansas, settling first at LeRoy, Kansas and then to Yates Center. With them also came Madge's mother, Rebecca Winifred and her stepfather, Andrew Cramer.

To Alden and Madge Wall were born three children, Duncan in 1902, Homer in 1903 and Lois in 1904. Lois died when one year old and Homer when 13 years old.

Alden taught school, teaching at the Cope School Dist. 62 in 1902-03. In 1904 following the death of his daughter Lois and his mother-in-law both in 1904. Alden took his family back to Iowa, where he preached at Christian churches in different towns and also taught school. During these years Alden made frequent long visits to the elder Walls and to "Granddad Cramer" in Yates Center, with the two boys Duncan and Homer staying and attending school here.



Thomas and Mary Amanda (Collins) Wall as they looked soon after they came from Elliott, Iowa, to Yates Center soon after 1897.

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Thomas Wall and Andrew Cramer were linked in business as well in the family affairs. Both were associated in the stone quarries and construction activities. Cramer's second wife was Mollie Chellis. They were married Feb. 1, 1914, in a surprise ceremony before the congregation of the First Christian Church. Childless himself, "Granddad Cramer" cherished and was cherished by the Wall youngsters as he was later by the Chellis family.

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The Woodson County Advocate, Yates Center, carried this ad, August 11, 1905. "We have all kinds of rock for sale. Will put in foundations, sidewalks, in fact everything in the stone work line. Cramer and Wall. Phone No. 151.

Later on each of these men carried their own ad almost side by side.

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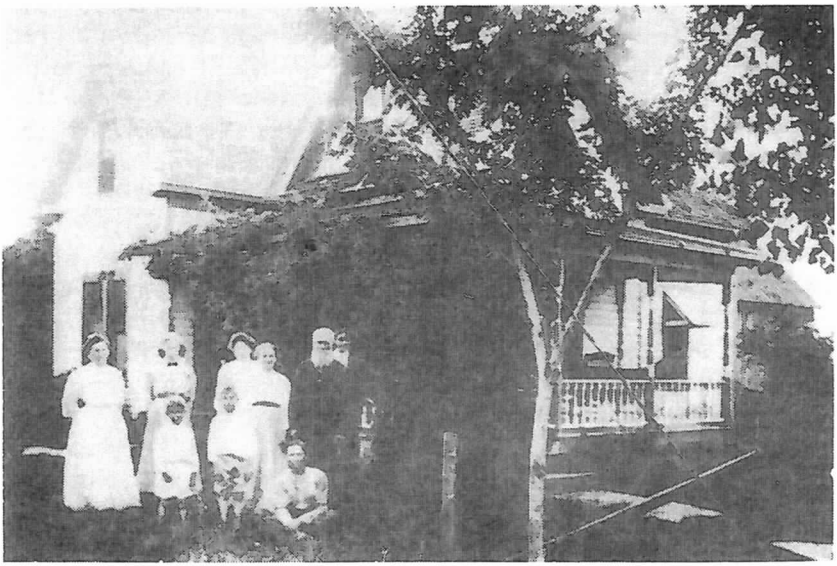
Thomas Wall and son Alden built and lived in houses still standing a block west of the old school building at north end of town at the corner of Prairie and Bell Streets. The Thomas Wall home on the northeast corner and the Alden Wall home on the northwest corner of this intersection.



In the summer of 1909, the whole Thomas Wall family posed in front of the home of Alden Wall at 301 West Bell Street. The Wall's built this house about 1900, and is still occupied.

In the picture in front row are at left, Homer, his brother Duncan. Their father Alden seated. Back row is Madge, wife of Alden and mother of the boys, Birdie, Lyra, Mary Amanda, Thomas and William Boyd, Lyra's husband.

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Of the Wall's mentioned that lived in Yates Center, only one is living. He lives at Taccoma Park, Maryland, near Washington, D.C. In 1975, Duncan and son Andrew, visited Yates Center. The Editor of this quarterly spent a pleasant afternoon with them at our home. After leaving Yates Center Duncan attended the University of Missouri Journalism school, worked on papers in Kansas, Iowa and Oklahoma. For 20 years as an information officer in the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, and 13 years in Rome as publications director of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, retiring in 1972. Duncan recalls, "I've called half a dozen American cities home and for 13 years Rome but Yates Center is the only home town I've ever always felt homesick for."

WOODSON COUNTY 105 YEARS AGO,
October Campaign, 1864 —

In the forepart of October, 1864, General Sterling Price with his Confederate forces, were moving through Missouri and it was much feared they would come over into Kansas.

The Kansas Adjutant General's Report of 1864 under the heading of "The October Campaign" gives the following proclamations and General Orders which we will give in part:

Headquarters Dept. of Kansas
Fort Leavenworth, October 5, 1864.

The rebel forces under General Price are now at the railroad bridge on the Osage, about 15 miles below Jefferson City. Large Federal forces tend to drive him toward Kansas. To prevent this and join in efforts to expel these invaders from the country I desire that you call out the entire militia force, with their best arms and ammunition for a period of 30 days. Each man should be provided with two blankets or a buffalo fobe for comfort and a haversack for provisions. No change of clothing is necessary.

(Signed) S. R. Curtis, Major Gen.

Executive Dept., Topeka October 8, 1864.

The State is in Peril! Price and his rebel forces threaten it with invasion! Kansas must hurl them back at any cost!

Topeka, October 9, 1864.

In pursuance of the proclamation of the Commander-in-Chief, the Militia of Kansas will turn out and rendezvous immediately at the posts indicated below.

Bourbon, Allen and Woodson counties at Ft. Scott under Brig. Gen. J. B. Scott.

Commanders of the Brigades and Regiments will promptly prepare their respective commands for active service for 30 days unless sooner discharged, and see that each man will bring two blankets, a tin cup, knife and fork, a haversack, and also a coffee pot for every five men.

Let each man come with such arms as are at hand and a full supply of ammunition. As the campaign will be a short one, no change of clothing is necessary.

George W. Deitzler
Major Gen., K.S.M.

U.S. Military Telegraph October 10, 1864
Fort Leavenworth - (General Orders No. 56)

The letter to carry out the object of the Governors proclamation and to secure prompt and united military organization; martial law is proclaimed to extend through out the state of Kansas and all men, white or black between the ages of 18 and 60, will arm and attach themselves to some of the organizations of troops for temporary military service.

Company G, 16th Regiment, Kansas State Militia was sworn in at Belmont, Woodson County in October, 1863. On October 14, 1864 (During October Campaign) they were included in Co. C. Frontier Battalion, Kansas State Militia and ordered into active military duty at Fort Scott, Kansas. Their term of active military service was rather short, however, as they were released from active duty on October 30, just sixteen days later. They were at Fort Scott just 3 days before it was decided that Gen. Price and his rebels had headed for Texas. They were relieved from active duty at Belmont (not Fort Belmont) Kansas, by order of Gov. Thomas Carney, October 30, 1864.

The dividing line for the Companies G and H of the Kansas State Militia in Woodson County seemed to be a north-south line about where Durand now is. Those west of that line going to Belmont and those east of the line belonging to Company H at Neosho Falls.

In the northwest corner of the county especially along Turkey Creek, we find that the men and boys there were enrolled in Company D of the same Regiment mustered in at LeRoy, Kansas.

During the "October Campaign" in 1864 Company H at Neosho Falls, was redesignated as Co. A Frontier Battalion and was ordered into active duty on October 13 to October 30 1864. It was first organized at Neosho Falls in October 1863.

The roster of the Co. A was: R. R. Smith promoted from 2nd Lt. to Captain; 1st Lt., Owen Diviney; 2nd Lt., Nathan Keller; 1st Sgt. H. Groesbeck, 2nd Sgt. H.C. Learned; 3rd Sgt., George Yohon; 4th Sgt. Charles Ostmire; 1st Cpl., W.B. Allen; John Yager as 2nd Cpl., 3rd Cpl. Finis Smith; Michael Collins, as 4th Cpl. Privates were: W. Anderson, John Britton, J.M. Baldwin, John Connell, John Conway, T. L. Clark, Theodore Elliot, Enoch Fender, Ira Hathaway, G.H. Hathaway, W.G. Henley, G. Hartwig, David Johnson, Samuel Jumper, Solomon Kesner, I.T. Lobaugh, G.S. Lobaugh, S.D. Lynch, Dynta Lottee, Jesse Mann, Benjamin Moody, Tony Mills, George Parker, William

Philips, John Peter, Daniel Ringle, W.M. Reeves, Michael Reedy, H. Rogers, Wm. Robinson, William Stang, John Stang, A.I. Sharp, Jacob Swilley, I.T. Snow, A. Stewart, D. Shepherd, S. Syrus, John Stepney, I. C. Thompson, A. Tademan, L. Vetito, S. F. Vrankenberry (Frankenberry) John Walters, John Woolman.

Among Co. D, at LeRoy, from the Turkey Creek area were, 1st Lt. Asa Whitney; Privates, Joseph Miller, William B. Stines, Warren Crandall from on down the creek in Coffey Co. was 2nd Lt. in Co. I of same regiment.

Roster of Co. C from Belmont were, Capt. J. H. Gunby; 1st Lt. James E. Watkins; 2nd Lt. M.B. Pearsoll, 1st Sgt. H.J. Gregory; 2nd Sgt. N. W. Quisenberry, 3rd Sgt. James Welch; 4th Sgt. John Hanks, 1st Cpl. James Weeks, 2nd Cpl. Conrad Fullman. Privates, T. P. Arnold, J. Burton, William Carr, Thomas Cook, John Circles, James Cooper, I. Dodge, Moses Davis, I. Daniel, A. Elder, G. Friend, I. Gilbert, G. Gould, I. Huddleson, A.P. Horton, J. Jerrold, J. S. Lunders, H. Leggett, L. Mitchell, J. Moody, William Maybee, E. Rowe, I. Rogers, B. Stanbury, E. Stockebrandt, Wm. Stockebrandt, J. Sharp, I. Shoop, W. Sutton, N. J. Spillman, W. Wright, W. Walker, I. Buzzard, H. Lindsey, M.N. Philips, J.G. Winebright.

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No contact was ever made with the Confederate forces by the militia men from Woodson County who were attached to the Frontier Battalion at Fort Scott.

The men and boys in this militia were more or less a nondescript group, many never having any military training, riding their own horse and mules, taking their own gun whether rifle, shotgun or pistol and their own ammunition. 4th Cpl. Michael Collins rode a mule to Fort Scott. A wagon was taken by 2nd Lt. Warren Crandall to haul the wounded or disabled if needed.

The Woodson County Militia was among the 15,000 men and boys that arrived at the rendezvous less that three days after receiving the notice. This was exceedingly well as they had to drop everything at the farm, office, shop pulpit or whatever they were doing at the time.

The militia was especially commended for this by Thomas Carney, Governor and Commander-in-Chief and also by their commander Major General GeorgeW. Deitzler.

Claims for horses lost in service had to be sustained by a certificate under oath, of at least three credible and disinterested persons, giving the value of the animal and that it was actually lost in service.

YATES CENTER NEWS - October 2, 1879 —

Proposals for Wood - County Clerk's Office
Woodson County, Kansas, Sept. 17, 1879.

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received at this office until Tuesday, October 7, 1879, at 2 o'clock p.m., for the delivery of sixty cords of wood for use in the county offices. Said wood to be good, sound, merchantable hard wood; Twenty cords to be 18 inches, and forty cords 22 inches in length. Said wood to be delivered in the wood house, at the court house in Yates Center as fast as needed for use in the different offices, and all to be delivered by February 1, 1880. The right reserved to reject any and all bids.

By order of the Board of County Commissioners.

I. N. Holloway, County Clerk

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MAIL arrives and departs from Yates Center as follows:

| ARRIVE | DEPART |
|---|---|
| Humboldt, via Defiance, daily ..... | 11:30 a.m. — 1:00 p.m. |
| Neosho Falls, via Everett, daily ..... | 11:30 a.m. — 1:00 p.m. |
| Eureka, via Toronto, daily ..... | 11:30 a.m. — 1:00 p.m. |
| Humboldt, via Cookville and Rose .... | |
| Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sat. .... | 6:00 p.m. .... 6:00 a.m. |

All mail close 10 minutes before time of departure.

Office open from 6:00 a.m. until 8:30 p.m.

Office will be closed each day from 1:00 o'clock p.m. until 1:45 p.m.

Money order books open during business hours.

L. J. Wells, Postmaster

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Notice for Publication
Land office at Independence, Kansas, September 18, 1879

Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make a final proof in support of his claim, and secure final entry thereof at the expiration of thirty days from the date of this notice, viz: Carl Donnerberg, of Woodson County, Kansas, for the west half of the southeast quarter section 6; township 24, range 15 east, and named the following witnesses, viz: A. F. Brenner, of Woodson County, Kansas, and Gustaf Hein, of Woodson County, Kansas.

M. J. Salter, Register

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W. H. Jones, Editor, Yates Center News.

AN OLD LOG CABIN ALONG TURKEY CREEK —

We would like to tell some things about an old log cabin that once stood along Turkey Creek. Along in the 1850's, possibly 1857-58, a man named Barnes came to this part of Woodson County. Whether he came by wagon, or by other means or whether he came alone or with a family we never learned.

Quite a few years ago, Charlotte (Mrs. George) Williams told us about this cabin and that a man named Barnes built it. Grandmother Williams lived on down the creek, and as a small girl remembered the old log cabin.

The old cabin stood about a quarter mile west of the old Burt store where the Burt Welding Shop now is. It was built closer to the small creek called Jordon than to Turkey Creek. The "River Jordon" empties into Turkey Creek a short distance from the cabin was built. The cabin was built along the north side of the north half of the southeast quarter of section 5, Twp., 24, Range 15, in Liberty township.

Down the creek about a half mile was the log cabin home of Asa Whitney, who came here in 1859, and up the creek about a half mile was the log cabin of the Fay family. The Fay family came here about the time that the Whitneys did.

Barnes like many other settlers along this creek, came, built his cabin, stayed a year or two and then moved on or perhaps back to where he came from. He had left before the 1860 census was taken.

Possibly just by "squatter's right's", Asa Whitney took over the old log cabin and the land surrounding it while he built his cabin just down the creek. While the Whitneys occupied this cabin and the land surrounding land they never really owned it or had any deed for it. The old cabin was built of the native timber from along where Jordon and Turkey Creek join, possible of Oak and Walnut logs. The floor was no doubt just the dirt floor. The one door was in the south side along with a glassless window. Slabs of lumber were put over the window opening and hung by strips of leather. Stone fireplace in East end.

When he was 18 years old, Omar Whitney, the son of Asa Whitney enlisted in Company F Ninth Reg. Kansas Volunteer Cavalry, in October 1863. This was the company that originated at Neosho Falls and later attached to the Iola company. He served until the end of the Civil War in 1865, coming back to the Whitney home in Liberty township. He was married to Mary Ann Graves, whose parents Pusey and Jane

Graves lived a couple of miles up the creek from the old log cabin. Omar and Mary Ann Whitney started their married life in the old log cabin possibly in 1866. On March 25, 1867, Omar Whitney established a post office in this home that was called Liberty, Woodson County, Kansas. "And on the 20th of April execute a bond and has taken the oath of Office and authorized to execute duties of that office at Liberty." The document from which this was taken was signed by Alexander W. Randall, Postmaster General. (This writer was privileged to read this document, which was in possession of Omar's son, E. P. Whitney, who lived here in Yates Center for awhile). Mail was handled in the old log cabin for the settlers along Turkey and Duck Creek's until it was discontinued two years later, March 19, 1869.

We believe that E. P. Whitney was born in this cabin. However, the Omar Whitneys soon moved from this vicinity. Mary Ann Whitney passed away and Omar married Julia Fay.

As we mentioned above Asa Whitney seemed to have control of this cabin and land surrounding it he never had a deed or patent for it. All former occupants were out when the U.S. issued it to the M.K.&T. Railroad. In May, 1870 the railroad sold it to Charles Weide for $1,000.

However, in March, 1870 another family had moved into the old log cabin. They were William B., and Annie Butler and two small sons George H. and William Charles Butler had come to Kansas from northeastern Indiana. They came by rail as far as the rails came at that time, to Ottawa. There they were met by Annie's Uncle Samuel Naylor, who had settled on their homestead in 1869, about a mile and half to the northeast, along Duck Creek.

Wm. B. and Annie Butler were the grandparents of the writer, so we will refer to them as Grandpa and Grandma. Grandpa started working for Asa Whitney for fifty cents a day and moved into the old log cabin, while he made money enough to build his 10x12 foot "cracker box" cabin that was necessary in order to prove up on his claim about two miles up the "River Jordon."

Sometimes later when the Karl Weide family came here direct from Germany and purchased the farm, they could not move into the cabin because the Butlers were there. The Weide family then went to the home of Karl's brother Gottfried Weide who lived a couple of miles up Turkey Creek. Here they moved into the old rock house, a small rock building about eight by ten feet, with an upstairs even smaller. Mr. and Mrs. Karl Weide and six sons lived in the rock house for sometime until the Butler cabin was built.

The Karl Weide family then moved into the log cabin. We do not know just how long they lived in this cabin, but as they prospered and became acquainted with the new country, Karl Weide built a large two story frame house close to the west of the old log cabin. The cabin was used as a storeroom for sometime.

While living in the old log cabin Grandma Butler and the two small boys had quite an experience. One day while Grandpa Butler was away working for Asa Whitney a band of Indians came to the door and begged for something to eat. Grandma tried to satisfy them by giving them some of the scant supply of food, but they demanded more. As the Indians began to crowd into the cabin Grandma gradually gave way, backing and keeping the two small boys back of her. She backed until they came the bed and could go no farther. She was at her wits end and did not know what to do. About that time Karl Weide happened by and could see that Grandma was having quite a difficulty with the Indians. He came to the cabin and in German and broken English demanded the Indians to move on. They may not have understood just what he said but they knew what he meant and moved on.

Up until a few years ago the rock foundation of the old log cabin could be seen, but perhaps by this time the traces of a log building that could tell many tales past have all disappeared.

The first religious class of the Turkey Creek church was organized here at the Weide home just 6 years later whether in the log house or the new frame one we never learned.

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OUR OLDEST CITIZEN PASSED AWAY —

We would like to take this opportunity to honor the oldest citizen of Woodson County. On October 16, 1979 Mrs. Grace Downey would have been 107 years old. Grace Hyde was born October 16, 1872, on a farm near Vevay, Indiana.

On November 16, 1890, Grace E. Hyde was married to Edwin C. Downey. In 1894 they decided to come to Woodson County, Kansas, and to Yates Center where for thirty-two years they operated a grocery store and meat market. Here their three children were born, Mildred Lacey, Russell Downey and Pauline Vanwormer.

Mrs. Downey was past her 100th birthday when because of her health and a broken hip she became a resident at Autumn Manor in Yates Center.

Mrs. Downey died August 28, 1979, just fifty days short of 107 years.

NEOSHO FALLS POST - July 25, 1884 —

Published every Friday by Hogueland, Hamm & Co. Business office in Hamm's Post Office Building, where all contracts must be made.

—Farmers are very busy with their work. Wheat and oats are about all secured; haying will soon be in order; corn never looked better; everybody is happy, and Kansas, especially the Neosho Valley, will boom again this fall.

—Bricks for sale - at kiln one mile south of town on the Trout farm. Shewell & Gorbert.

—Shewell & Gorbert, went to Iola, Tuesday, to figure on the new school building which is to be erected there this season. We are informed that the building committee is better pleased with the brick burnt here than any it has examined.

—Col. Parsons, B. F. Everett and J. S. Wilson left on Monday morning to attend the National Encampment of the G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic), at Minneapolis.

—Mr. Finney was elected Commander of Neosho Falls Post Grand Army of the Republic, last Monday evening.

—G. H. Moore's Art Gallery will remain here but one week longer. Those wishing pictures would do well to call early and avoid the rush of the last few days. Good Pictures quaranteed in cloudy weather.

—FINE CARRIAGES AND BUGGIES — M. B. Camp
Would call the special attention of purchasers to his fine line of Carriages and Buggies, consisting of, Two-seated two-spring Buggy — finished in fine style, making a strong and durable buggy for farmer's use.

—Two-seated three-spring Buggy — finished in fine style. I call attention to the use of an Iron Bar on the hind spring in place of a wood bar, making a stronger bar and bringing the bearing directly on the center of the spring which prevents the pitching of the spring forward.

Three-seated three-spring Buggy — strong and durable, carrying nine persons.

Two-seated Platform Buggy — Iron truss gear, a strong and durable buggy, for six persons.

Timpkins Side Bar - Two styles of bodies, in top or open.

All this work is hand-made wood work, finished in good style and will be sold at Bottom Prices.

Remember the place. — M. B. Camp, Neosho Falls, Kansas.

—FALLS HOUSE - T. L. Reid, Proprietor - Newly Fitted. Good Sample rooms! Good accommodations! Board at Reasonable Rates. A first class Livery and Feed Stable in connection with the House.

NEOSHO FALLS POST, Published at Neosho Falls every Friday by Hoguelans, Hamm & Co. - Sept. 5, 1884 —

—The Distict Fair Association at Neosho Falls, expects to have all of the candidates for State offices at their fair. Politicians realize they always have a big crowd; and it is a good place to go and see the babies.

—Wm. Moorehead, living on the prairie southwest of town presented Hogueland, Hamm & Co. land office with two sample beets, raised on his farm this year each weighing over five pounds. The high-prairie farmers are going to carry off the laurels again this year.

—We would like to have D. R. Herdman explain whether he intended to compliment one of the editors of the Post or the Democratic candidate for President when he said there was a strong resemblance.

—Mr. E. Grubbs presented Hogueland, Hamm & Co. with a sample fifteen or twenty stalks of corn, with two to three ears to the stalk, the ears measuring from eleven and one-half to fourteen inches each. We don't believe that it can be beaten in the state.

—Our hotel and livery men are making extensive preparations for the fair.

—Samuel Corn, yesterday brought to our office a dozen apples the largest measuring fourteen inches and the smallest eleven and three-fourths inches in circumference, and takes the lead so far.

—Roller Mills, Neosho Falls, Kansas. FLOUR, MEAL, BRAN, ETC. always on hand. These mills are running day and night Sundays excepted. Roller flour in exchange for wheat.

W. L. Parsons

—Main Street LIVERY and FEED STABLE, Neosho Falls, Kansas W. E. Abbey. You can always procure a stylish turnout, with a fine pair of "steppers", guaranteed for style and speed to excel any in the city.

Commercial men can be accommodated with the best vehicles, to make country trips. Terms the lowest in the city.

—The District Fair will not fail to make it pleasant for its patrons; and any man who will not give 50 cents a day to see all they are going to have must need a little missionary work.

—NEOSHO FALLS BANK- W. J. Haughawout and C. H.Goodrich, Bankers. Neosho Falls, Kansas. Does a general banking business. Collections and tax-paying promptly attended to.

—School commenced Monday morning, with rather a small attendance.

## PATRONS OF WOODSON COUNTY HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

Brown's Western Auto
Milton & Virginia Schornick
Kenneth & Barbara Stockebrand
John V. Glades Agency
Street Abstract Co. Inc.
State Exchange Bank
Self Service Grocery
Krueger's Variety & Dry Goods
HiWay Food Basket
Piqua Farmer's Co-op
Gaulding Oil Co.
Donald E. Ward
Morton Equipment
Swope & Son Implement Co.
Campbell Plumbing & Electric
Clyde Hill
Cantrell Pontiac-Buick
Paul C. Laidlaw
Rogers Bros. Garage
Artex Manufacturing Co.
J. C. Schnell
Gambles Hardware & Home Furnishings
Superior Building Supply, Inc.
Glen Shaw
Pringle Ranch, J. W. & J. Richards
Herring Hardware & Supply
Kimbell Ranch - Ed Kimbell
Daylight Donut Shop
Edwin H. Bideau Associated Agency, Chanute
First National Bank, Toronto
Blackjack Cattle Co., Inc.
Yates Center Elevator
Wilma Mark
Jasper's Shopping Spot
Bill Taylor-Gen. Agent Woodson Co. Farm Bureau
Atkin Clinic
Daly Western Supply
Pyeatte-Jaynes Ins. Agency
Dyer Chevrolet
Linde Barber Shop
House of Fabrics
Milton & Marcella Wrampe
E. E. Light
Atkin Rexall Pharmacy
Campbell Funeral Home
Mr. & Mrs. Glen Baker
Piqua State Bank
Wendall McMurray
Everybody's Grocery
McGinty-Coffman Dept.
Al's Jewelry
Edwin G. Reid, St. Louis, Mo.
Rex Butler, Nashville, Tenn.